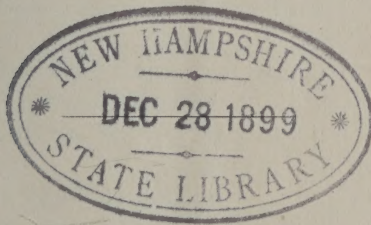


ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
SELECTMEN, TREASURER
AND
Board of Education
OF THE TOWN OF
KENSINGTON, N. H.,
FOR THE
YEAR ENDING MARCH 1, 1887.



EXETER, N. H. :
GAZETTE STEAM PRINTING HOUSE.
1887.

VALUATION OF THE TOWN.

As made by the selectmen, for the year ending March 1, 1887.

No. of polls 157,	\$15700 00
Improved and unimproved land and buildings,	217086 00
Horses 133,	8590 00
Oxen 107,	6093 00
Cows 423,	10355 00
Other neat stock 100,	1665 00
Sheep 292,	1135 00
Hogs, taxable, 8,	54 00
Carriages, taxable, 14,	760 00
Bank Stock, 44 shares,	4400 00
Money at interest,	3926 00
Stock in trade,	3345 00
Mills 2,	250 00

\$273364 00

Valuation of school property in district No. 1,	\$1050 00
“ “ “ 2,	1450 00

Rate of taxation, state, county and town, 1.10 per hundred.

Highway tax 15 cts. per hundred.

School house in district No. 1,	.76
“ “ 2,	1.06

School house tax for whole town, 91.

Amount to collect, resident,	2631 03
“ non-resident,	430 20
Dog tax to collect,	34 00

\$3095 23

APPROPRIATIONS.

State tax,	580 00
County tax,	585 70
For schools by law,	507 50
Extra school money for schools,	50 00
“ money for repairs,	50 00
Debt and interest,	500 00
Contingent expenses,	500 00
Safe,	200 00
Hearse runners,	25 00
Highways and bridges in labor,	400 00

TOWN DEBT.

One bond of \$1000 at 5 per cent. due June 10, 1888.

Remains in collector's hands for 1886,	63 96
“ 1884,	6 47
“ 1883,	6 01
“ 1882,	15 49
“ 1875,	20 75
“ hands town treasurer for 1886,	594 91

JOSIAH D. PRESCOTT,	} Selectmen.
LEVI B. TILTON,	
OSCAR W. BROWN,	

TREASURER'S REPORT.

Joseph W. Brown. Treasurer, in account with the town of Kensington for the year ending Mar. 1, 1887.

DR.

To cash received of Treasurer,	\$712 67
money hired to pay bond due June 10, 1886,	600 00
received of Dan'l. E. Palmer, collector, 1886.	3031 27
“ “ 1885,	96 30
John F. Gill, “ 1884,	30 00
Frank A. Mace, “ 1882,	1 71
State Treasurer. railroad tax,	26 37
“ literary fund,	65 92
“ savings bank tax,	408 09
County for support of poor,	193 50
Damon Safe Co. to pay freight bill,	3 00
Thomas H. Blake for use of town hall,	10 00

\$5178 83

CR.

Paid State tax,	\$ 580 00
County tax,	585 70
Treasurer School Board,	673 42
Overséers of the Poor, for support of poor,	187 00
Highways and Bridges,	131 61
Snow bills,	169 61
Contingent expenses,	249 48
Non-resident highway taxes,	43 20
Abatements,	20 42
For services town and school officers.	261 08
Town debt and interest,	1,682 34

\$4,583 92

Remaining in hands of Treasurer,

594 91

SCHOOLS.

Paid John A. Blake, Treasurer School Board,	\$ 673 42
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SUPPORT OF POOR.

Paid for support of Betsey Greenleaf,	\$ 104 00
For support of Jemima Hilton,	83 00
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	\$ 187 00

HIGHWAYS AND BRIDGES.

Paid for extra labor and material on highway,	\$ 13 51
Charles R. Gove, for extra labor,	7 30
Samuel Batchelder, “	10 20
Abram Hilliard, extra labor and storing machine,	4 00
Benjamin F. Rowe, extra labor,	1 95
Stephen M. Kimball labor and material,	28 40
Weare N. Shaw, “ “	3 54
Daniel M. Evans, labor,	6 30
Thomas C. Shaw, “ and material.	24 25
Daniel E. Palmer, labor,	12 04
Stephen C. Sawyer, “ and material,	8 68
Charles A. Evans, labor,	6 75
J. D. Prescott, with machine, posts. and seeing to bridges,	4 75
	<hr/>
	\$ 131 67

TOWN DEBT AND INTEREST.

Paid Laura E. Hoag, bond and interest,	\$ 1,010 84
" Note and interest,	621 50
" Interest on bond due June 10, 1888,	50 00
	<hr/>
	\$ 1682 34

SNOW BILLS.

Paid Daniel M. Evans, making snow paths,	\$ 4 95
Stephen M. Kimball, " "	1 80
Charles R. Gove, " "	16 35
Benjamin F. Rowe, " "	9 45
Joseph W. Brown, " "	11 70
Stephen C. Sawyer, " "	12 13
Charles A. Evans, " "	27 00
S. M. Kimball, for J. W. York and others. mak- ing snow paths,	18 30
Samuel Batchelder, making snow paths,	26 92
Daniel E. Palmer, " "	23 31
Thomas C. Shaw, " "	17 70
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	\$ 169 61

CONTINGENT EXPENSES.

Paid J. D. P. Wingate, printing reports,	\$12 00
" printing 30 check lists,	4 00
Wiggin & Fernald, for advice,	2 00
Dr. Douglas, 2 bills,	2 50
J. C. French, watering place, 1885,	2 00
Damon Safe Co., for fire proof safe,	125 00
S. P. Tilton, damage to sheep by dogs,	10 00
Warren P. Lamprey, " "	6 50
B. & M. Railroad Co., freight on safe,	3 00

Paid Marston & Eastman, for advice in 1882.	2 00
for collector's book, blank books and paper,	3 31
for inventory book, town officer and blanks,	3 80
George Sawyer for painting sign-board and lettering,	1 09
for runners for hearse,	22 50
for glass and putty for school-houses,	30
John C. French, maintaining watering place,	2 00
W. S. Hobbs, " "	2 00
J. D. Prescott, getting hearse runners,	2 50
S. N. Hobbs, drawing safe from Exeter,	5 00
Amos T. Rowe making taxes,	13 00
O. W. Brown, lodging transient persons,	75
" making sign-board,	25
F. A. Mace, book for school-district,	1 00
Thomas H. Blake, express, postage and paper,	93
John F. Gill, collecting tax in part, 1884,	1 50
Joseph Poor, maintaining watering place,	3 00
Frank H. Poor, half cord of wood and saw- ing same,	2 00
T. H. Blake, care of town house,	4 00
Ira Fellows with hearse 4 times,	5 00
J. D. Prescott, blanks, postage and paper,	64
James S. Austin, damage to sheep by dogs,	6 00
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	\$249 48

ABATEMENTS.

Paid J. N. Austin, on horse that died,	\$ 55
John W. York, over estimated,	1 92
Polly M. Sanborn, on cow that died,	31
Frank E. Brown, " horse "	22
Thomas H. Carlton, poll tax,	1 25
Frank Manson, "	1 25

Paid Frank W. Fields,	"	1	25
Leonel W. Carr,	"		95
A. V. W. Palmer,	"		95
Jeremiah K. Leavitt, a pensioner,			95
William H. Perkins,	"		95
Benjamin F. Lovering, on horse that died,			10
James W. Rollins, poll tax of 1885,			96
Philip Brown, part of tax of 1885,			46
Stephen Green, on horse that died,			66
Weare N. Shaw,	"		93
Amos T. Rowe, for horse taxed in Massachusetts,		1	56
Henry V. Cook, double taxation in 1885,		5	20

\$20 42

TOWN AND SCHOOL OFFICERS.

Paid Joseph N. Austin, for services as moderator,			
March, 1886,		\$2	00
Thomas H. Blake and David Brown, services			
as auditors,		2	50
Supervisors' services, March and November,			
1886,		12	50
School board, for services, 1886 and 1887,		28	00
Joseph W. Brown, treasurer, services,		20	00
Thomas H. Blake, town clerk, services,		25	00
Frank A. Mace, services as moderator, Novem-			
ber, 1886,		2	00
Selectmen for services to March 1, 1887,		102	50
J. D. Prescott, extra services,		20	88
O. W. Brown,	"	4	50
Daniel E. Palmer, collecting taxes, 1886,		40	00
" do., in part, 1885,		1	20

\$261 08

DOG FUND.

Balance in treasury,	\$11 50
Raised by tax for 1886,	34 00
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	\$45 50

AUDITORS' REPORT.

KENSINGTON, March 1, 1887.

Having examined the foregoing accounts, we find them correctly cast and properly vouched, and do hereby approve the same.

JOHN W. YORK, }
STEPHEN BROWN, } Auditors.

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
SCHOOL BOARD
OF THE
TOWN OF KENSINGTON.

Under the law passed at the last session of the state legislature, abolishing the school districts and establishing the town district system, no addition to the number of school officers was required in the town, nor has the Board of Education thought it best to make any change in the number or location of our schools. Two teachers who had earned a good report in other years were retained, each in the school which she had previously taught. There have been, therefore, no changes in our school arrangements to give occasion for any irritation of feeling against the new law.

It cannot be denied, however, that at the outset many intelligent citizens did disapprove of this act of legislative interference with the school districts.

The destruction of the district republic, without the expressed will of the people seemed an unwarranted ex-

ercise of power and a long stride toward obnoxious centralization. We had been accustomed to regard the school district meeting as affording the best illustration of pure democracy, as well as a nursery for the general, training for the wider duties of citizenship. There were strong attachments to the ancestral home district, an honorable pride in its history, precious and inspiring family and neighborhood associations connected with it. But, however great the surprise and regret at first, at the passage of this law, it is now seen that the people still have control of their public schools. In the town-district meeting all the voters of the town may act upon all questions relating to the interests of all the schools of the town. It would be quite a contradiction in terms to say, that there was less democracy in a larger meeting of citizens than in a smaller one. While under the new arrangement there is the obvious possibility of an accession of greater wisdom to our educational counsels. The people will continue to guard their common schools with a watchful interest; nor will they brook impertinent official interference, nor for long endure unconstitutional, needless or injurious legislation. We are not likely to forget the first clause of our national constitution, "we the people," nor that other clause of the immortal Declaration of Independence, "that governments derive their just powers from the consent of the governed."

It is believed that our schools in the past year have not fallen below the average standard of excellence, but in some respects have made considerable advancement. The North school was taught by Mr Jewett P. Swasey, of Exeter. Mr. S. has had many years' experience in teaching, and came to us with excellent testimonials from school officials and others; nor were we disappointed in our expectations of his success. Active, energetic, hard-working, enthusiastically fond of the duties of his calling; kind and affectionate in disposition, without hobbies or self conceit, yet well assured of the excel-

lence of his own methods ; never whimsical, nor failing in a common sense, practical view of his daily duties, his unswerving aim and object manifestly were to instruct and help each and every scholar up to the measure of his capacity and needs. His drill in the elementary studies was remarkably thorough and continuous until complete familiarity was attained. The teacher, faithful and patient, the scholars wide-awake, obedient and studious, this was well-nigh a model school. It would not be easy to say what desirable quality was lacking in the teacher, or what more or better the scholars could have done.

Special commendation of Mr. Swasey and his methods of instruction, must by no means be understood to be a disparagement of the other teachers. Miss Chase having taught the East school for many consecutive terms, has repeatedly received flattering commendatory notices in previous reports of your School Superintendents. In the judgment of many patrons of the school she has never done better work than in the last year. The prevalence of whooping cough in the neighborhood, greatly diminished the daily attendance of her pupils in the winter term, and of course in other respects affected unfavorably the appearance and progress of the school. There are few schools having a larger proportion of bright, well-behaved, studious, cheery set of scholars.

Miss Tilton was retained in the West school at the earnest and unanimous solicitation of its patrons, and closes the year with the affection of her pupils and the approval, esteem and good will of the parents. Miss T. possesses many admirable qualifications as a teacher. Readily profiting by any hints from whatever source, her improvement during the year was noticeable, especially in the use of the blackboard. The general deportment of the scholars, the interest in their studies, the excellence of their recitations and their evident progress merit a favorable notice.

With regret it is said, however, that there were a few

cases of truancy, or absenteeism by children of school age, which, if repeated, will compel the Board to resort to the appropriate legal remedy. And we cannot here forbear to remark that if owners, agents, and superintendents of manufacturing establishments are liable to a heavy fine for employing children whose school attendance the law makes compulsory, we do not see why farmers and others should not be held to be equally guilty for a like offence, or for allowing such children during school hours to lounge, or play on or around their premises.

Every intelligent citizen must regret that our school houses are open to our children but one half of the year. Should not the length of our school terms annually exceed rather than fall short of thirty weeks?

To keep our schools running for that length of time will require an addition to the sum appropriated for schools last year of not less than one hundred and fifty dollars. While it is a matter for congratulation that so many of our young people have, in years past, enjoyed elsewhere the advantages of schools of a higher grade than our own, it must be remembered that most of our youth will be able to attend no other schools than those in the town which is providentially their home during the period of their minority. And when it is apparent that under the progressive forces of the age the standard of education necessary to meet the demands of society in the commonest avocations of life, is constantly rising, is it not the bounden duty of citizens and parents to afford the young the corresponding educational privileges? Should not our American schools meet the growing and urgent demands of our American life?

NORTH SCHOOL.

TEACHER, JEWETT P. SWASEY.

Wages per month, \$36; Length of school: First term, 8 weeks; number of scholars 37; number studying read-

ing 37; spelling 37; penmanship 33; arithmetic 26; geography 20; grammar 15; history 4; composition 15; book-keeping 6. Scholars not absent or tardy any half day: Roswell P. Prescott, May D. Shaw, Grace G. York, Josie M. Blake, Grace G. Shaw, Helen A. Prescott, Nellie F. Flood, Mary A. Hilliard, Mary A. Gove, May F. York, John G. Pray, Archie T. York, Thomas P. Pray, Hattie R. Wadleigh, Bessie H. Blake. Number of visitors 24.

Second term: length of term 10 weeks; scholars 37; studying reading 37; writing 37; penmanship 34; arithmetic 30; geography 24; grammar 21; history 4; composition 21; physiology 11; book-keeping 6; philosophy 9. Not absent or tardy any half day: May D. Shaw, Mary A. York, Grace G. York, Blanche Kimball, Josie M. Blake, Hattie R. Wadleigh, Mary A. Hilliard, Nellie F. Flood, Bessie H. Blake, May F. York, Fred Kimball. Visitors 26.

Third term, 8 weeks: scholars 39; studying reading 39; writing 39; penmanship 34; geography 28; grammar 21; history 4; composition 21; physiology 11; book-keeping 6. Not absent or tardy any half day; Wendell P. Hilliard, Herbert M. Prescott. Visitors 35.

EAST SCHOOL.

TEACHER, SADIE S. CHASE.

Wages per month \$27. Length of school: First term 8 weeks. No. of pupils 34. No. studying reading 34; spelling 34; penmanship 31; geography 28; arithmetic 28; grammar 15; history 6; composition 15; physiology 3; algebra 1. Not absent: Alice M. Brown, Mary W. Brown, Annie L. Chase, Edith A. Sherburne, Esther B. Warner, Nedd W. Brown, Herman E. Brown. No. visitors 8.

Second term 10 weeks. No scholars 31. Studying reading 31, spelling 31, penmanship 29, arithmetic 29, geography 27, grammar 14, history 5, composition 16, physiology 3, book-keeping 1, algebra 2. Visitors 39.

Not absent: Emma D. Brown, George Beckman, Nedd W. Brown, Herman E. Brown.

Third term 8 weeks. No. scholars 25. No. studying reading 25, spelling 25, penmanship 25, arithmetic 25, geography 24, grammar 15, history 6, composition 16, algebra 2. Not absent: Rose L. Evans, Nedd W. Brown, Herman E. Brown. No. visitors 9. Not absent or tardy any half day in the year: Nedd W. Brown, Herman E. Brown.

WEST SCHOOL.

TEACHER, MARY A. TILTON

First term. Wages per month \$25 Length of school 8 weeks. No. scholars 18. No. studying reading 18, spelling 18, penmanship 11, arithmetic 11, geography 9, grammar 7, history 3, composition 7, physiology 2, book-keeping 1, algebra 1. Not absent any half day: Edith M. Eaton, Mary L. Palmer, Amy E. Palmer, George C. Eastman, Otis H. Eastman, Herbert L. Eaton, Oscar R. Eaton, Willard E. Palmer. Visitors 7.

Second term 10 weeks. No. pupils 19. Studying reading 19, spelling 19, penmanship 11, arithmetic 11, geography 11, grammar 5, history 2, composition 7, physiology 2. Not absent: Edith M. Eaton, Mary L. Palmer, Herbert L. Eaton. No. visitors 7.

Third term 8 weeks. No. pupils 21 Studying reading 21, spelling 21, penmanship 13, arithmetic 13, geography 11, grammar 4, history 2, composition 6, physiology 1. Not absent any half day: Edith M. Eaton, Mary L. Palmer, Herbert L. Eaton, Amy E. Palmer, Willard E. Palmer, Oscar R. Eaton. Not absent or tardy any half day in the year: Mary L. Palmer, Herbert L. Eaton, Edith M. Eaton, H. A. Woode. Vis. 6.

Enumeration of children between ages of 5 and 15 years, by selectmen of the town, April, 1886: Males 50, Females 45.

JONATHAN E. BROWN,
For the Board of Education.

Kensington, March 1, 1887.

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